PATENT

**DOCKET NO.:** MSFT-3017/307734.01

**Application No.:** 10/828,947

Office Action Dated: November 1, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

## **Listing of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) A method for analyzing test results, comprising:

<u>comparing reading</u> test result data corresponding to at least two test failures; <u>and</u>
<u>wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;</u>

wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

determining at least one a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

determining at least one related test failure corresponding to a second failed operation,
wherein said second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed operation; and
linking said at least one related test failure to said at least one representative test
failure in a database:

parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

- 2. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein at least a portion of said method is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.
- 3. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein said test result data identifies a computer processor associated with each test failure, and further comprising including computer processor identification in said list of operating systems. eross-referencing said test result data corresponding to at least two test failures such that at least one property of said at least one related test failure is accessible from said at least one related test failure without accessing all properties of said at least one related test failure.
- 4. (Original) A method according to claim 1, further comprising exposing said at least one representative test failure through a Graphic User Interface ("GUI").

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5. (Currently Amended) A method according to elaim 1 claim 4, further comprising marking said at least one representative test failure in said GUI as an expected failure.

- 6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5, further comprising deemphasizing said at least one representative test failure in a said GUI with respect to any unexpected failures.
- 7. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium bearing instructions automated test result analysis, comprising:

instructions for <u>eomparing reading</u> test result data corresponding to at least two test failures; <u>and</u>

wherein a test failure comprises a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system;

wherein said test result data identifies an operating system associated with each test failure;

instructions for determining at least one a representative test failure in said test result data, said representative test failure corresponding to a first failed operation;

<u>instructions for determining</u> at least one related test failure <u>corresponding to a second</u> failed operation, wherein said second failed operation is a same operation as said first failed <u>operation</u>; and

instructions for linking said at least one related test failure to said at least one representative test failure in a database;

instructions for parsing said test result data to generate a list of operating systems corresponding to said representative test failure and said at least one related test failure; and instructions for linking said list of operating systems to said representative test failure in said database.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for classifying test results, comprising:

extracting data from a test result file, wherein said test result file identifies a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system; and

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comparing said data to failure characteristics stored in a database; and linking said data from a an operating system identification from said test result file to said failure characteristics if said data from a test result file matches said failure characteristics.

- 9. (Original) A method according to claim 8, further comprising marking properties of test result files to be ignored during said comparing.
- 10. (Original) A method according to claim 8, wherein at least one of said failure characteristics is an abstract characteristic that can be matched by a variety to data from a test result file.
- 11. (Original) A method according to claim 8, further comprising adding new failure characteristics to said database if said data from a test result file does not match said failure characteristics, wherein said new failure characteristics correspond to said data from a test result file.
- 12. (Original) A method according to claim 11, further comprising emphasizing said new failure characteristics in a GUI with respect to failure characteristics that are not new.
- 13. (Canceled)
- 14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 8, further comprising marking failure characteristics to indicate that the <u>a</u> failure they represent is expected.
- 15.-21. (Canceled)
- 22. (Currently Amended) A method for classifying test results, comprising:

extracting data from a test result file, wherein said test result file identifies a failed attempt by a software application to conduct an electronic operation on a computer equipped with an operating system; and

comparing said data from a test result file to failure characteristics stored in a database, wherein first data that identifies a test operation is used in said comparison and second data that identifies a test scenario comprising at least an operating system identifier is

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not used in said comparison; and

if a match is discovered from said comparing, identifying said data from a test result file and said failure characteristics as a single failure in a Graphical User Interface (GUI), and adding said operating system identifier to a list of operating system identifiers associated with said single failure.

23. (Original) A method according to claim 22, wherein said comparing is accomplished by a stored procedure in a database.

24. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 22, further comprising cross-referencing said data from a test result file <u>list of operating system identifiers</u> such that at <u>least one property of said data from a test result file it is accessible through said GUI from said single failure.</u>

25.-26. (Canceled)

27. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 26 claim 22, wherein said data from a test result file is in Extensible Markup Language ("XML") format.